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Dear Sunshine Reform Task Force Members:

I am a concerned citizen residing in San Jose. It has been brought to my attention that the Sunshine Reform Taskforce members will be discussing whether the public should be provided with more information whenever the City of San Jose is considering giving major subsidies to companies wanting to locate in San Jose. I encourage the Task Force to give considerable thought to Bob Brownstein's proposal to provide basic fundamental information to the public when more than \$1 million in public subsidies is going to be awarded to a company.

I also have the privilege of serving as CEO of the Bay Area Women's Sports Initiative. As we have spent the past 2 years working with young girls in underserved neighborhoods, it has become clear that parks and athletic/recreational facilities have been under-funded and placed on "the back burner" for some time now. Every year I watch the City give away hundreds of millions of dollars in subsidies while parks remain under-maintained and understaffed.

I believe that subsidies for private developers should be a powerful economic development tool for the City but I question whether they are and whether there is sufficient opportunity for the public to weigh-in on the front end of the process.

Subsidies should only be provided when it is clear that they will generate good returns to the community and that the City has compared all proposals in clear view of the public. Setting clear standards which measure the true value of any subsidy is the only means by which the city will be able to conduct a comprehensive comparison of all submitted proposals. Bob Brownstein's proposal would give the public answers to these questions.

Please do not hesitate to contact me at 408-243-8247 if you would like to further discuss any of my thoughts.

Sincerely,

Marlene Bjornsrud